

TAB

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

SECRET

PUBLIC RELEASE ON THE ENDEAVOR PROGRAM

The Department of Defense announced today that its space satellite research and operations program will henceforth be known as ENDEAVOR. The objectives of this program, which is under the executive management of the Air Force, will be the development and application of satellite vehicles for communication, navigation, photography, mapping, weather prediction, early warning, and space research. This will combine all of the projects currently underway within the Department of Defense. It is expected that control and coordination of the total military space effort will be facilitated by this move, although no changes are contemplated in the management of currently authorized projects.

PUBLIC RELEASE ON A LAUNCH UNDER THE ENDEAVOR PROGRAM

The Air Force announced today the launch of ENDEAVOR I satellite from Point Arguello, California. The satellite fired into orbit by a _____ booster, is one of the series of military space vehicles for development and application of space technology in the field of communication, navigation, photography, mapping, weather prediction, early warning and space research.

CONTINGENCY STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION USE

If a question is asked about US space weapons, the response should follow this guideline:

- (a) We have, of course, with prudent regard for our national security directed research toward investigation of the problem of space weapons.
- (b) The US does not now have a space weapons program.
- (c) The US earnestly hopes that it will be possible to reach a disarmament agreement banning such weapons.

SECRET